

the *Emily*

Published by the University of Victoria  
Students' Society

HQ 1101  
E4

**WELCOMES  
YOU  
TO UVic**



**Volume 9, Number 1 • Tuesday, September 4th, 1990**



# Wilderness Of Women

by Susanne Klausen

Beginning in September, women will be able to take part in wilderness tours designed by women, for women. Wilderness of Women (WoW) is a new program which aims to encourage as many women as possible to explore and enjoy wilderness areas in British Columbia. The different locales include the Stein Valley, Clayoquot Sound (Tofino) and Strathcona Park. Ranging from four to seven days in length, each trip focuses on a different theme and offers opportunities to develop different skills. Examples are, "Wilderness travel skill development" and "Lesbians and Allies — exploring and healing our internalized homophobia."

Why was WoW developed? One of the coordinators of the program, Catherine Berry, says "there is a need for this; we realized that many women who do become interested in hiking in wilderness face barriers that need to be addressed." According to Berry, such barriers have included appropriate daycare for single mothers, lack of money, lack of equipment and/or transportation, and at times there has been a psychological barrier for women in wilderness tours who feel uncomfortable with a "real 'go for it' attitude. That's why we stress a safe atmosphere for women, plus offer car-pooling, equipment, childcare and a sliding-scale. We run on a non-profit basis. For us the emphasis is on being in wilderness, not on getting somewhere — we want to explore and reclaim our connections with the Earth and each other."

## Ficky Stingers

by Eve Lewis  
a preview

by Alisa Gordaneer

**FICKY STINGERS** is a one-act play, written by Eve Lewis, adapted and directed by Laura Evans. it's been workshopped at Cafe Noir. it's opening at the Fringe Festival this september.

it's about a woman. about a woman, and a man. about what happens.

she tells the story. her story. could be her story, could be anyone's story. any woman's story. she tells what happened, even if she doesn't have the words to describe it., to name it, to make it known. she knows how it feels.

"Did you ever have a pencil poked in your ear when you were little?" she asks. "Do you know what it feels like to have a rolled-up newspaper jammed down your throat? A chair leg rammed up your arse? It hurts. It hurts like fuck."

and she tells us more, tells herself more. relives what 's happened. tries to make sense of it. of the horror.

it is not a horror show. don't expect blood and gore.

it is a horror show. of another kind. but it's not horrible. far from it. it's a gripping piece of drama. it's skilfully adapted and directed by Laura Evans.

it's at the fringe. and at UVic. see it.

The hiking tours have several aspects in addition to the emphasis on skill development. There will be discussion about native issues, the ecology of and the problems facing each of the areas (logging, mining, etc.), and all will be offered in a spiritual context. "We are very open about the political situations of wilderness in B.C., and our roles as activists here in Tofino. Of course we won't be forcing our opinions on anyone, but we won't hide them either. The same goes for native issues; especially now that native peoples are speaking out, we believe it is necessary to talk about the history of the people indigenous to these areas. We are very aware of the fact that it is their land we are walking on," Catherine said.

Finally, what is meant by "spiritual"? "Generally speaking, there will be a strong emphasis on a process of group/self/Earth discovery. We hope to nurture our spirits by doing exercises aimed at developing and strengthening our sense of connectedness with the earth." Although the hiking trips are not meant to be a submersion into any particular spiritual belief, Catherine says that all the exercises are grounded in a Wiccan perspective. "I find Wicca most welcoming to women — it doesn't see women as second-class citizens. It celebrates the power of the earth to give birth and sustain life and recognizes women's experiences doing the same. Wicca holds that all humans have a connection with the natural environment and is one way to nurture this connection."

"I believe that the oppression of women and the oppression of nature in the world today is not an accident. There has been seen to be a "special" connection between women and the earth for many centuries, but to abuse women because of this is an excuse, not the reason, for our oppression. But instead of cutting ourselves off from nature in an effort to liberate women, I think we need to work towards aligning ourselves with the Earth. The oppression must stop — not respect for Mother Earth."

If you are interested in finding out more, or if you have any camping equipment you could donate to Wilderness of Women, call 725-3230.

In Parc Lafontaine the wind flung  
my papers.  
I knew I had to leave.  
I couldn't keep still until I found you.  
Now my heart gallops.  
My hands have the power of the sun.  
My whole self is a stream under  
the sheets of a savage  
and inevitable rain.  
But if I watch you light a cigarette,  
your gestures sublimate  
the Prospero inside me.  
I want to throw a singing cry as far  
as I can,  
and then,  
gently,  
press my lips  
to the palm of your hand.

Catherine Clark

## NO ASSEMBLY REQUIRED

I was watching the T.V. and all those beautiful women and I kept thinking, all the time I just kept thinking they're so beautiful. Those women are so beautiful and they're so brave, for not trying to hide their femaleness and they just stay there laughing on the beach, playing volleyball, drinking beer, singing and they don't care what they're wearing. They're not afraid to show their bodies, their womanliness, probably spent hours dressing and combing and fussing and they are really beautiful and brave and to go to all that trouble.

So beautiful and so brave that I want to write a poem about them, to celebrate them: their anonymous faces, their anonymous bodies and if I was a man, a regular man, I would want to marry one and take care of her and marvel in her beauty and her bravery.

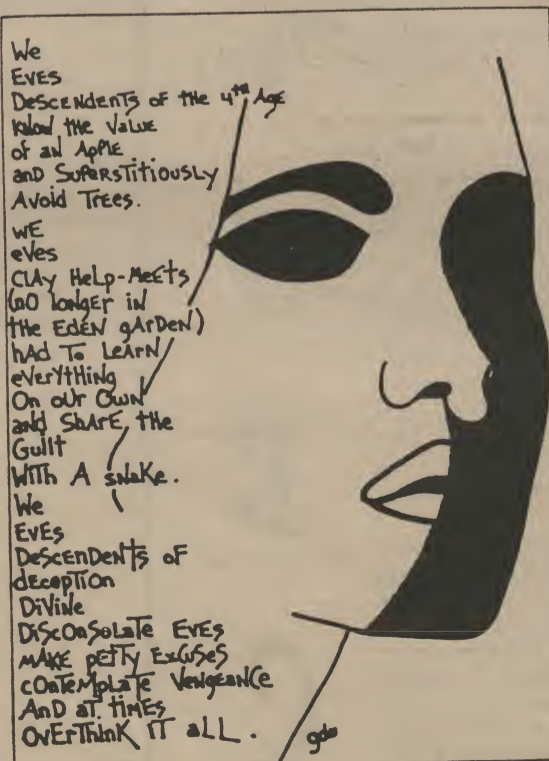
I would take strength from her, this woman, my wife, and I would adore her, I would worship her and protect her and I would tell her that it is so dangerous to be playing volley-ball on the beach and singing and drinking beer and just not even caring about who might be watching, not even knowing what they're thinking. Because I am a man, and I know what they think about her. I know what they want to do to her. I know because I am a man.

I would say, please, please, stay inside with me and don't play volleyball on the beach anymore, because its dangerous, just like its dangerous to laugh and sing and dance and drink beer. It's dangerous to do it where everyone can see you. That's the most dangerous part, because all those men can see you and that you're so strong and so brave and they'll want you too and they won't understand when you say no. They just will not understand that, that you don't want to share yourself with them, you who have so much to offer. They'll be angry then, they'll be so angry and so jealous and they'll want to punish you for having all of that, everything that you have and not wanting to share it with them, not wanting to see them or talk with them or hold them because it seems like someone who is so beautiful and so brave and so generous would have enough to go around, and they don't understand that you don't, they want to milk you of that strength and keep some of it to themselves and they will resent you, because never, never in a million years will you need them as much as they need you. That will never happen because you take so much time with yourself, take such good care of yourself and they won't understand that because they have never taken care of anyone, except for you, in their minds. And you didn't let them, worse than that, didn't need them to and its just unacceptable, unacceptable to their minds that you don't need them, don't even want them but they would die for you.

That you won't die for them, that is the most puzzling thing, because in their minds and maybe in reality they beat you and they taunt you and sometimes they rape you and maybe its just that you don't feel like making love right then and they do and they're bigger and they just keeping bugging you and bugging you and maybe its easier to just go with it than to keep saying no, than to keep moving their hands off your knee, your thigh, your breast, your neck. Because maybe they don't understand how they want you so much, need you so much and you don't want them at all. How can that be? And you don't like to fight. I know that, you've said it a million times. You don't even want to argue about maybe me wanting broccoli and cheese sauce with dinner and you just wanting salad, you just say okay lets have broccoli and cheese sauce even though you don't like it. I know you don't like it, its just that you make cheese sauce so much better than I do. How can it be that I even want to argue with you, you who is so beautiful and so brave, how can that be? But that's what we do, that's what I do. And I hate that, I hate that look in your eye when I know you just do it because you don't want to argue with me, don't want to bother, because what's the point, you say. It never changes.

And all those men out there are still wanting you, still wanting you playing volleyball on the beach and laughing and singing and getting your hair done and drinking beer and I can't let them have you, I can't let it happen. I can't let you go. I'll just keep you to myself, forever. I'll just keep you to myself making cheese sauce and maybe sometimes playing volleyball but not with other people, not on T.V.. I'll be the only one there, watching you and your beauty and your bravery because you are still so beautiful and so brave I can't believe it. I can't stand it that you are so beautiful and so brave and making me cheese sauce and you don't even like it. I can't stand that but I wonder, what do you think, standing there at the stove, stirring the cheese sauce and sticking a knife in the broccoli. I go out and get some lettuce because you are so beautiful and so brave. I wash the lettuce because that's what you wanted. I stand at the sink and I wash the lettuce and I think oh god I love you so much and then I bring the washed lettuce over to you and I wrap my arms around your waist and I rest my head on your shoulder and you are stirring the cheese sauce, stirring and stirring and stirring and it is thick and rich and orange and I think how lovely it will be and maybe I'll let it slide onto my lettuce and I'll eat that too.

After dinner I am watching T.V. and I see women and fabric softener and Tide and ground in dirt and I think maybe you are like them too and maybe they are beautiful, maybe they are beautiful for always taking care of everyone and caring about ground in dirt and wanting clothes to feel soft against people's skin and it seems so noble and so caring to share all that beauty and all that bravery in making cheese sauce and softening fabric and getting out ground in dirt.



# MEN AND FRIENDS

by Catriona Johnson

## Women Abuse in Dating Relationships: The Role of Male Peer Support

By Walter S. DeKeseredy  
Published by Canadian Scholars' Press Inc.

The title caught my eye: *The Role of Male Peer Support*. I'd always wondered about that, wondered enough to ask former male lovers what they talked about with their friends, what the jocks discussed in the shower-room, why men joined fraternities?

How are men affected by these male friendships?

How do men's friendships affect women?

Then the August 6th issue of *Time* magazine carried an article, "Sex and the Sporting Life: Do Athletic teams unwittingly promote assaults and rapes?" It states that "to a great degree, sexual abuses are a consequence of men banding together in tight-knit competitive groups" and goes on to explain how group loyalties often diminish personal integrity. According to noted psychologist, Dr. B. Sandler, the addition of drugs or alcohol into the equation, will often lead individuals into participating in a gang rape. "They will do anything to please each other.... They are raping for each other. The woman is incidental."

DeKeseredy's book, *Woman Abuse in Dating Relationships*, is a study concerned "with examining how male peers perpetuate and legitimate the sexual, psychological and physical victimization of females in university dating relationships." The study is based on data from Canadian universities and is to my mind, especially relevant to UVic where sports teams and male dominated clubs abound. For many young men, coming to UVic is their first experience with living away from home, and like their female counterparts, loneliness disappears by becoming part of a group.

In analyzing available data, DeKeseredy found that two determinants, (1) patriarchy and (2) socialization, were left out. He uses Eisenstein's definition of patriarchy as, "...a sexual system of power in which the male possesses superior power and economic privilege. Patriarchy is the male hierarchical ordering of society." Says DeKeseredy, "although norms gov-

erning male dominance may be endemic in Canada, not all men equally adhere to the patriarchal ideology.... However, some of the men in this study may have had peers who adhered to '...patriarchal values, norms, and beliefs...'

The theoretical model that DeKeseredy arrives at combines dating relationships, stress, male peer social support, and woman abuse, and gave rise to six hypotheses:

1. The more social support men receive, the more likely they are to abuse their dating partners or girlfriends.
2. The more stress men experience, the more likely they are to abuse their dating partners or girlfriends.
3. The more serious the dating relationship, the more likely men are to abuse their dating partners or girlfriends.



4. The more stress men experience, the more social support they will obtain.
5. The more serious the dating relationship, the more social support men will receive.
6. The more serious the dating relationship, the more stress men will experience.

DeKeseredy distributed questionnaires to 333 male undergraduate students attending summer courses at York University, University of Guelph, University of Toronto, and McMaster University. The sample age ranges were from 18 to 65, with the mean age being 23. The sample was further broken down by religion, ethnic group, year at university, and family income. Control variables were age, dating

partners use of alcohol or drugs on dates, and the subjects use of alcohol on dates.

Woman abuse was defined as "any intentional physical, sexual, or psychological assault on a woman by a boyfriend, lover, male cohabitor, or casual date." Social support referred to "the actions and reactions of a male peer (or peers) that provide or are perceived as providing solutions to problems associated with male-female dating relationships." Finally, stress was defined as arising "when a male appraises a dating life event as 'threatening or otherwise demanding and does not have an appropriate coping response'."

DeKeseredy's findings were frightening. The overall abuse rate was 70% with 69% reporting using psychological abuse and 12% reporting physical abuse. Approximately 11% of the total sample had engaged in "minor" forms of physical abuse (eg. throwing an object at a partner, pushing and slapping) and 6% reported using severe violence (eg. punching and kicking) against a partner.

The study also found that "male peers may reward woman abusers by buying them drinks or offering them other 'rewards'. Moreover, violent cohabitants may be given shelter if they have to leave their residences because of fear of outside intervention (eg. police, friends or family of victims)." Further, peers may also furnish "vocabularies of adjustment" that help "men to rationalize their physical, sexual, and psychological assaults". Abusers may therefore have feelings of well-being rather than remorse or guilt.

The many aspects of society that lead men to become abusive are complex and not easily eliminated. The roles that the media, pornography, and the socialization process in general, play are still being studied. The male peer group is another area that needs further study, however, it is clear that there is a necessity for male education.

University administrations must take steps to understand and then alleviate these situations. This could be done through research funding, discussion groups, and mandatory classes on sexual violence. Universities have a responsibility to the women that attend them and to society as a whole. UVic is not the exception.

by Catherine Clark

I am a third year student transferring to UVIC from UBC, and, having found much invaluable support, emotional and spiritual, from the Women's Centre there, I immediately gravitated to UVIC's. As soon as I walked through the door, I felt myself dovetail with the place, as I had done at UBC. In fact, it was my visit there that prompted this article; I thought that UVic women might like to know what their sisters in Vancouver are up to and up against.

The UBC Women's Centre is located in the SUB on the main floor; hence, it is surprising that so few women actually make use of it or even know where it is. It's primary function is to provide a relaxed space for UBC's women to sit and talk, have a coffee, eat lunch, read, study, etc. The core element of women who organize it also serve as liaisons between women in need and counselling services, daycare, housing, legal advice, and self-defence groups.

The very fact that the centre is considered a sanctuary for women disallows any men to enter it at any time, for any reason. This has caused some controversy among students of both sexes, but there has not been sufficient opposition to change the ruling. In addition to this perplexing question, the centre has had precious little support from either students or Administration, owing at least in part to the fact that the Women's Centre is not particularly well publicized by the AMS, and was not included in the campus tour for new students — I didn't discover it until my second year there.

The Women's Centre is also involved in helping to (finally!) institute a Women's Studies programme, in the capacity of informing both female and male students of its content and its academic possibilities. Dr. Valerie Raoul, the programme's coordinator, called an open meeting last spring with the intention of informing any interested students about Women's Studies. Approximately four (female) students were in attendance, despite extensive efforts made to publicize the meeting. I was one of the disheartened four, but the sorry turnout legitimized my belief that while the status of women has come far, it still has leagues to go. Popular support equals funding equals progress, so do your bit to reconcile the sexes and support your Women's Centre wherever you happen to be.

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## EMILY EDITORIALISES

The Warrior Society, a group of men in camouflage blocking a bridge — what do they have in common with feminists? Well, just about everything. In the Mohawk nation everyone has a role and a responsibility. The warriors are not a bunch of thugs blocking a bridge like a gruesome troll in a fairy tale. (Never mind that the bridge is on Mohawk land). Danielle Woodward, a native woman who went to Oka as an observer, recently explained that all the decisions made concerning events at Kahnawake and Kanesatake are made in the respective longhouses. The Mohawks have established their own system of government and the decisions taken there are based on the need to protect their nation. As the Mohawks are a matriarchal people, it is the elder women who have the ultimate control and could ask their government to dissolve at any time (they have the right idea). If the elder women demanded that the blockades come down, they would. Yet the blockades are still up — and for good reason. This isn't about golf courses, cigarettes, gambling, anti-Quebecoisism or a bridge. This is about everything. This is about Canadian apartheid.

We all know, more or less, (usually less) the history of European settlement in Canada. We know that the First Nations people offered to share everything they had with Europeans. We know that there was never any all out war or treaties which handed Native lands over to Whites. We know the takeover was insidious, slow, ruthless and brutal. What we as a society seem to disagree on is whether or not the First Nations people have claim to their land today. It's obvious that the state doesn't think so.

Today the government has given the army the mandate to go in and take down the barricades, by any means necessary. The state self-righteously shakes a finger at the Mohawks for not using the *legal* channels. I wonder what Elijah Harper would say about the legal system . . . surely he must think it pitiful that one must resort to filibustering and "anarchy" in parliament in order to prevent legislation from passing. We all know who these channels work for and where they lead. And think of the time wasted — time which others could have used to creatively govern this country. The Tory government will make an example of the Mohawks so that the people on the blockades in Lillooet and all over the country will realize what they are up against. The state is threatened because the people know it is not working. At least the oppressed know it — and they (we) are the majority. There will be a power struggle. There will be blood. There will be martial law. Deja vu. When you don't learn from history it has to repeat itself.

The First Nations people are getting it first and hardest. The army has been itching to mobilize for years — it does not profit from peace. The Natives are on the bottom rung on the ladder of oppression in Canada. We will soon see other oppressed groups speaking out and occupying the front lines. Soon we may see feminist blockades. Oppression will not go away on its own. As we are seeing at Oka, the state will not give up its power without a fight.

Oppressed groups must begin to show more solidarity. Women at the University of Victoria, among others, are taking an active stand in support of the Mohawks. It is the same force which oppresses Natives, women, the poor, blacks, immigrants, workers and disenfranchised groups everywhere. This same force is destroying the planet. This force is a privileged class, motivated by greed and power, which controls the wealth of society. This class loves its neighbours if the neighbours are white, bourgeois, and capitalist.

Together in another class Natives and feminists have been known to share a different philosophy — a recognition that we must take care of each other, the earth and all creatures if we are going to survive on this planet. No feminist is an island. We must all stand up and take responsibility for whatever we do to each other. Unfortunately, we must also take responsibility for the actions of our politicians. We are part of a collective society which (actively or passively) chose them. Now we must actively choose to remove them from power and replace them. Our hegemonic values must become life-sustaining values. Like the Mohawks, we must put ourselves on the barricades and refuse to move. And, as for the police state, they've come for the Natives. Soon they'll come for the rest of us.

First they came for the Jews  
and I did not speak out because I was not a Jew

Then they came for the communists  
and I did not speak out because I was not a communist

Then they came for the trade unionists  
and I did not speak out because I was not a trade unionist

Then they came for me  
and there was no one left  
to speak out for me.

Pastor Niemoeller (victim of the Nazis)

We have to help each other . . .



## THE EMILY'S EDITORIAL COLLECTIVE

Alisa Gordaneer  
Catherine Clark  
Cathy Richardson  
Catriona Johnson  
Donna Wessel  
Emma Goldman  
Emmeline Archer  
Jacquie Best  
Kathryn Fairfield  
Kelley Abeyasinghe  
Kerry Holt  
Marne Jensen  
Michelle Robidoux  
Pam Frache  
Susanne Klausen  
Queen Victoria  
Anonymous (who is still alive & well & female)  
• • •

The Women's Centre and the *Emily* would like to express our gratitude to the following individuals, along with our Collectives, who have given so much of their time, talents and themselves to help make this our most eye-catching and amazing summer:

Doctoral Ben Dorman  
Bonny Bob Beck  
Bonnie Curran  
Catriona "Boom Boom" Johnson  
Happening Heather Gropp  
Ian Case, P.I.  
Incredible Ida Eriksen  
Ken Henderson  
Kathryn Fairfield, Coordinator  
Larry W. Irving, super genius  
Lise-Lotte Loomer  
Lilibet Loughran  
Dr. Norma Mickelson  
the eversexy, Sexy Crayola  
Voluptuous Val Hemminger  
And a cast of thousand we're probably forgetting . . . okay, at least ten.

### The Emily Editorial Policy

The *Emily* consists of an autonomous editorial collective consisting of three co-editors (funded through the workstudy program) and contributing volunteers. All women at UVic are welcome to become members of the *Emily* Editorial Collective and/or contributors to the *Emily*. The *Emily* takes first North American publishing rights, only, from its contributors. *Emily* Editorialises is written by various individual members of the Collective and may or may not reflect the opinions of the *Emily* Editorial Collective.

*Emily* Editorial Policy is entirely determined by the Editorial Collective at the beginning of each year. Our primary aim is to promote women at UVic and their concerns as well as to provide a place for women to see their work in print. The *Emily* is a forum for feminist debate.

While policy can change from year to year it is the accepted premise that we print nothing misogynist, heterosexist, homophobic, racist, ageist, sexist or otherwise discriminatory in nature. As well we adhere, whenever possible, to the policies of the UVic Women's Centre.

The *Emily* is funded by the University of Victoria Students' Society. Our business offices are located in SUB 106, the UVic Women's Centre. Correspondence should be addressed to: The *Emily*, c/o The UVic Women's Centre, Room 106, Student Union Building, P.O. Box 3035, Victoria, B.C., V8W 3P3. Advertising and other information can be given or obtained at the UVic Women's Centre or by calling 721-8353 or by faxing information to 721-8728. Subscriptions to the *Emily* are available on a yearly basis for \$10.00.

by Donna Wessel

Far off in the uncharted backwaters in the eastern spiral arm of the campus lies the University Daycare. Over here are the children. It is a different world of little stoves and dolls and cribs, puzzles, swings and even a resident cat. The toilets are small, most of the people are small and the space is small. So if you need to have your child attended to while you are in class, you will have to tell them that a year in advance. Yes, there is a waiting list and it is a first come, first-served arrangement. Being a parent, particularly a single parent, requires having a great deal of foresight. More than I would have. But isn't it nice that we even have a daycare?

The University Daycare came into being at the insistence, and indeed the financial push of the University of Victoria's Students' Society. The Students' Society's contributions and parent fees are still the Daycare's only sources of revenue. That means you and I: we financially support the Daycare now and it was our predecessors who saw the need and paid money to create a solution. The story goes that the secretary in the SUB General Office didn't have time to do her work anymore because so many students were dropping their kids off, 'just for an hour, just while I go to class. Thanks a million.' And being a generous woman, she didn't mind, but the Society did. You get what you pay for and we paid and we got: a daycare and a secretary who now had time to do her work.

Along with the generous contribution of the Graduate Students' Society, who donated their building, way back in the nether, nether (four phone calls and two file searches have been unable to answer this question — somewhere around 1984 or 1985) and who, as a result, have one room of approximately 500 square feet, to this day in which to house all their activities, the University Daycare was born. The Graduate Students, you will be happy to hear, will once again have their own building. It is scheduled for completion in January, 1991 and will be located behind the SUB.

All's well that ends well? Well not so far. In a building where "the paint is literally peeling off the walls," as former UVSS vice-president finance, Brian Menzies described it, there is a need for renovations at least, and preferably an expanded facility. At the moment the daycare can only handle 60 full time children between 18 months and five years and an additional 30 children for after-school care, so there is physical as well as spatial need for a new building. Although there is noted concern within the Board of Directors that this situation be rectified, their are also noted financial straps one time allocation from their Capital Building Fund for Daycare expansion.



Photo: the Martlet

Jampolsky will be donating \$5,000.00 at the end of his term. Jampolsky was not available for comment at the time of printing.

### What This Means To You:

As a student who is also a parent, the University Daycare can provide you with a number of services, even if they cannot give your child a spot in their filled space. If you did not secure a position for your child last year the news is not great. According to Mackay, in September "most centres and homes with a (good) reputation will be full."

"Even though we are appreciative of what the UVSS gives us, it is a very small percentage of our operating costs," Mackay said. Most of the Daycare funding comes from parent fees and if you are part of a family structure which consists of two full-time students and children, you will find yourself out in the cold as far as receiving any government subsidy for child care. \$20,000 per year is the income level at which subsidy stops. This is just over the amount a two parent family on student loans brings in. Mackay lobbies the government against this. "The government sees a student loan as disposable income and they do not consider the costs of tuition fees and books which students have to use their loans to pay for," Mackay said.

As well as taking care of children and coordinating the Daycare, Mackay also provides a number of other services. One of them is "helping parents work through the bureaucracy," inherent in the daycare subsidy program offered by the ministry of Social Services and Housing. "If they come against the subsidy wall," Mackay may have to refer parents to the UVSS Ombudsperson, Charlene Simon. But in many cases she is able to help students understand the process better and access a subsidy. She will do this whether or not your child is attending the University Daycare. Part of her job is to liaise with the University and the community.

In real economic terms what the subsidy can mean to individual parents is paying a monthly surcharge of \$75.00 for each child in daycare. While this is certainly not acceptable in terms of a community which takes responsibility for all of its children, compared to unsubsidized daycare costs of approximately \$350.00 to \$400.00 per month, it is also nothing to sneeze at.

David Clode, Associate Director of Student and Ancillary Services and former manger of the Student Union Building feels that it is necessary "for the government to at least acknowledge," that daycare is well within their purview, and responsibilities, before a solution can be found. How long this takes then, is an issue for the voters decide.

# CHILD POVERTY

Victoria may seem like the mecca of British Columbia's wealth for some people, but increasingly, more and more Victoria children are going to school hungry in the morning.

The Together Against Poverty Society, a local non-profit society, wants to address the problem of child poverty at its second Victoria Child Poverty Forum on September 29th, 1990. Forum organizers hope to raise public awareness of the growing community problems associated with child poverty, such as lack of child care, affordable housing and school meals programs.

Forum Coordinator, Kerry Holt, says there is a desperate need for such a forum in Victoria where there is a large number of single parent families and heavy competition in the job market.

"It is estimated that one in five children in British Columbia are living in poverty," Holt says. "Childhood is such a short period in our lives, but what happens to us as children can influence the rest of our lives. That's why it's important that we find workable solutions to child poverty now."

One of the Forum's speakers will be 12 year old, Michelle Edwards of Victoria, who will speak about her experience with poverty. The Forum will also feature a panel discussion with four people of low income and people who have dealt closely with poverty issues. Workshops will be held on the rights of the child, school meal programs, recreation, housing, child care and poverty's affects on children.

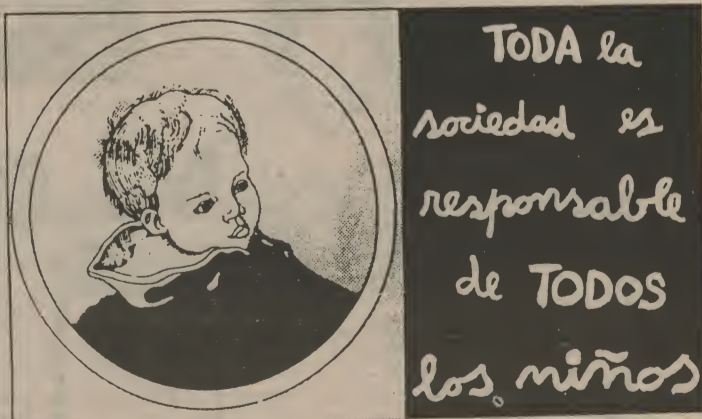
"The Forum provides a place for people of low income to express their own needs and concerns, and have their recommendations taken seriously," Holt says, "but the Forum is really for anyone concerned about poverty. We all need to work together as a community to find solutions."

The admission fee is \$10.00 or by donation. This fee will be waived for anyone who cannot otherwise afford to come. The location is still to be announced, but registrants can be assured that the Forum will be held in an easy to access location. Registrants will all be notified of the location by telephone well in advance.

The Forum will run from 9:00am to 2:15pm, and lunch and child care will be provided. For more information or to register, call Kerry Holt at the Forum Desk at 361-1989 or 389-3521, or write to Together Against Poverty at Fifth Floor-1815 Blanshard St., Victoria, B.C., V8T 5A4.

### Facts About Child Poverty:

- 20% of B.C.'s population lives in poverty;
- One in five B.C. children live in poverty;
- More and more children live in single-parent households; 85% of these are die from cancer;
- Current welfare food allowances provide a family with adequate food for only 18 days of the month;
- Present shelter allowances are \$100.00-\$200.00 below actual market prices. Dollars spent on rent must come out of food budgets;
- A family in Victoria is allowed a food hamper (which lasts only three days) once every month or two;
- Children are attending St. Andrew's Breakfast Club, a Victoria soup kitchen for the homeless and others;
- Children are the fastest growing impoverished group in Canada;
- More and more children live in single parent households: 85% of these ate headed by women who earn only 2/3 of the average wage for males.



"All of society is responsible for ALL the children."

# WHAT AM I GETTING IN

## WHERE ARE THE WOMEN ?

by Catriona Johnson  
and Donna Wessel

As a first year student at UVic, you will soon discover that all things are not created equally. UVic is an abundant source of information on the marginalisation of women. Like most Canadian universities, women at UVic make up 56 per cent of the student body, yet they constitute only 18 per cent of tenured faculty (security and benefits). Most women are concentrated into the positions of sessional instructors (no job security, no benefits and less money for more work).

Tenure is affected by years of experience, published works and qualifications as well as student and peer evaluations. A woman with children has less time for research and publishing, and there may have been periods in which she did not work, lessening her chances for promotion. As well, it is a common phenomenon that sessional instructors are identified as such and it is very difficult to get past that label; therefore, sessionals are very often overlooked when hiring is done for tenured positions.

In addition, University staffing procedures reflect society's stereotyping of women. Cashiers and secretaries are usually women, while groundskeepers and janitors are usually men. As you would expect, their pay scales reflect the world beyond the ivory tower. A Secretary IV makes \$1,937.00 per month, whereas a Groundskeeper I makes \$2,233.00 per month.

Secretaries usually require a grade 12 education, some technical training and up to four years experience in the secretarial field, as opposed to the higher paid groundskeeper who needs only a driver's license and a grade 10 education. It should be noted that both of these positions start at level I and in each case the individual will increase in seniority and pay levels the longer they are in the University's employment. These are not isolated incidents in the lives of University employees.

Academics do not fair much bet-

ter than their pink collar sisters, on or off the campus. Out of the 44 departments/programmes into which the university is divided there are five women who are in the positions of chairperson or director. This translates to slightly over nine per cent. Women are found in the traditional or expected areas, with the exception of **Yuen-Fong Woon who chairs the department of Pacific and Asian Studies**. The remaining four women are **Jennifer Waelti-Walters, director of the Women's Studies Programme; Caroline Attridge, director of the School of Nursing; Marilyn Callahan, director of the School of Social Work; and Gordana Lazarevich, director of the School of Music**.

There are nine faculties at UVic and only one is lead by a woman. This means that 11 per cent of the highest administrative positions within the faculties are filled by women. **Maureen Maloney** was appointed **Dean of Law** early this summer. She is one of only three women deans of law in Canada and the second woman dean, ever, at UVic. She was appointed to her position early this summer.

Within the **Board of Governors**

### Deans at UVic

Arts and Science:  
Humanities:  
Social Sciences:  
Education:  
Engineering:  
Fine Arts:  
Graduate Studies:  
Human and Social Development:  
Law:

Alastair Matheson  
Edward Berry  
Louis Costas  
Robert H. Fowler  
Eric G. Manning  
S. Anthony Welch  
Alexander McAuley  
Brian Wharf  
Maureen Maloney

(BoG), which is the highest governing authority of the University; there are four women representatives out of a total of 16 members. Two of these women were elected by the student body: **Diane Drummond and Maureen Hedley**. Of the eight government appointees on the BoG there are two women, **Mrs. Susan Irvine and Mrs. Miriam Lancaster**. Both of these women reside out of town.

The **Senate**, the body which deals with academic welfare of the University and its students, is currently

made up of **59 members, 15 of whom are women**. Again, a large percentage of these women are made up of student representatives.

The **UVic Administration** is composed of various offices which oversee the day to day running of the University. Of the 28 top offices, four are filled by women: **Margaret Swanson, Head Librarian; Gertrude Martin, Bookstore Manager; Kayla Stevenson, Director of Development; and Evelyn Samuels, Public Relations Director**.

On the University of Victoria **Students' Society's** Board of Directors (**UVSS BoD**) the situation is marginally better. Of the four executive members, there is one woman, **Elizabeth Loughran, VP Academic**. The majority (by one) of the **at-large director** positions are filled by women: **Susan Albion, Lisa Crampton, Shannon Dolphin, Claire Heffernan, Val Hemminger and Oona Padgham**. Four new at-large director positions will be available for women to fill in the October Bi-election.

UVSS staffing procedures, however, do not fair as well. Of the 16 managerial positions in the Student

Union Building, seven are filled by women. These positions, however, include the areas of Daycare, Entertainment, Food and Beverages.

The position of women in post secondary education is not a very attractive one. Perhaps with a better understanding of these realities women will begin to actively change the situation and men will work with them in creating a balanced campus. The lost talents of over half the population are being lost to the University if we continue with this sad record.

## Statistics

Dept./Programme	total tenured faculty	total tenured women	% of women	sex of chair
Anthropology	10	1	10%	M
Arts in Education	8	1	13%	M
Biochemistry/ Microbiology	13	1	8%	M
Biology	37	9	24%	M
Business	1	0		M
Chemistry	26	0		M
Child/Youth Care	8	2	25%	M
Classics	7	0		M
Creative Writing	9	0		M
Communications/ Social Found.	18	7	34%	M
Economics	13	0		M
Education	10	6	60%	M
Environmental Studies	2	0		M
Electronic/Computer	17	0		M
Engineering	9	3	33%	M
Engineering	3	1	33%	M
Fine Arts	12	6	50%	M
French	21	3	14%	M
Geography	6	1	17%	M
Germanic Studies	9	0		M
Graduate Studies (faculty reps)	4	2	50%	M
Hispanic/Italian Studies	19	3	16%	M
History	6	4	67%	M
History in Art	6	0		M
Health Information Sciences	2	0		M
Human/Social Development	9	1	11%	M
Linguistics	28	4	14%	M
Mathematics/Statistics	12	1	8%	M
Mechanical Engineering	17	3	18%	F
Music	8	8	100%	F
Nursing	8	2	25%	F
Pacific/Asian Studies	9	1	11%	M
Philosophy	15	4	27%	M
Physical Education	30	0		M
Physics/Astronomy	11	1	9%	M
Political Science	16	4	25%	M
Psychological Foundations	26	4	15%	M
Psychology	15	0		M
Public Administration	3	0		M
Slavonic Studies	12	2	17%	M
Social/Natural Sciences	9	4	44%	F
Social Work	10	2	20%	M
Sociology	12	3	25%	M
Theatre	10	2	20%	M
Visual Arts	2	2	100%	F
Women's Studies	550	98	17.8%	

Source: 1990/91 University of Victoria Calendar

## WOMEN IN

by Jacquie Best

*When students come to learn about economics or sociology (or language, literature, education, psychology, philosophy, political science, anthropology, science) they are taught about men, and men's view of the world, and this is a lesson in male supremacy. While on the one hand women have achieved some success in gaining entry to education, it is entry to men's education and it serves to reinforce male supremacy and control in our society.*

Dale Spender,  
*Invisible Women: The Schooling Scandal*, 1982

Women are a long way from achieving the equality that Chatelaine insists is already a reality: the 1986 Canadian Census found that an average woman with a university degree only makes slightly more than a man with a highschool diploma. The difficulties that women students face start before they leave university. Although things are beginning to change at UVic, women are still at a disadvantage in the classroom.

"(Women) are under-represented generally in the core curriculum

courses," says Chris Devlin, an English student who has taken two courses on women.

Although 56% of students on campus are female, they don't often learn about women in their courses. The content and interpretation often remains male-biased. The canon of western academic thought is still composed of names like John Locke, William Wordsworth, and Copernicus. Women like Mary Wollstonecraft, Emily Bronte, and Hypatia of Alexandria are only occasionally used as "exceptional examples."

"These holes in the academic canon are one of the main reasons for providing courses specifically on women," says Jennifer Waelti-Walters who is teaching a course on women's literature in the French department this year. "We are attempting to make the knowledge about women visible."

Courses on women may also challenge the structure of traditional disciplines. "The Renaissance" for example was not a time of rebirth for women, but of increased oppression. By taking women's experience into account, we may have to alter our conception of human history. Jodi Jensen, a student currently taking a course on the history of women says, "we're



# NTO: A Special Report

## YOUR POLITICS: A CALL TO ACTION

by Kelley Abeysinghe

Perusing the above list of "her-  
historical" dates gives you an idea of  
how slowly women achieve politi-  
cal equality with men. More impor-  
tantly, the list of them on paper  
does not give us any sense of what  
these women had to go through to  
make their(and our) voices heard.  
Certainly, the recent backlash  
against feminism on campuses can  
give us a sense of their experience,  
but the world is slightly less hostile  
and alienating than it was in the first  
two or three decades of the 1900s.  
We should never forget their  
struggles.

Do not get a false sense that wo-  
men are anywhere near represent-  
ing thier true numbers. It will take  
decades before women and men  
will be represented equally, partic-  
ularly at the federal and provincial  
level. Municipally, women are doing  
better, although it varies considera-  
bly. Our activities with other forms  
of "politics" also includes our activ-  
ities as volunteers and supporters,  
campaign workers and community  
activists, where our numbers are  
the greatest. Slowly we move in-  
creasingly into the "front lines" of  
decision-making as elected officials  
in many different arenas.

Student Unions are one of these  
arenas. The fact is, however, that  
although women make up over half  
of the overall student body at UVic,  
we stil do not always make up half  
of the elected student representa-  
tives. A Board that has a majority of  
women in one year does not mean  
that the next board will maintain at  
least a fifty-fifty split. It also doesn't  
mean that women have become  
comfortable with being in the politi-  
cal arena.

What are the barriers to involve-  
ment? While they vary at all levels  
of participation, many are constant.  
Society has definite ideas about the  
behaviour of women and men, and  
although these roles are changing,  
politics at the upper levels are still  
viewed as male activities. There is

1834-Quebec legislature takes away vote from women  
1883-First of three suffrage bills to be introduced by Sir John A. MacDonald,  
and defeated three times  
1916-Women in Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba are given the pro-  
vincial vote  
1917-Women with property are permitted to hold office in Saskatchewan  
1917-Women in British Columbia are given the provincial vote  
1917-Women who are British subjects and have close relatives in the  
armed forces can vote, on behalf of their male relatives, in federal elections  
1918-Women are given the full federal franchise  
1918-Women are given the provincial vote in Nova Scotia  
1918-Mary Ellen Smith is first woman elected to British Columbia  
legislature  
1919-Women are given the vote in New Brunswick  
1920-In the Dominion Elections Act, uniform franchise was established  
and the right for women to be elected to parliament was made permanent  
1921-Mary Ellen Smith, in British Columbia, is appointed the first woman  
Cabinet Minister in Canada and in the British Empire  
1921-Agnes MacPhail is the first woman elected to the House of  
Commons  
1921-Nellie McClung is the first woman elected to the Alberta legislature  
1922-Women in Prince Edward Island are given the vote  
1925-Women over 25 are given the vote in Newfoundland  
1928-After a petition from Emily Murphy, Nellie McClung, Louise McKin-  
ney, Irene Parlby, and Herietta Muir Edwards, the Supreme Court of Canada  
decides that under the terms of the BNA Act women are not "persons" and  
therefore cannot be appointed to the Senate of Canada(known ast the  
Persons Case)  
1929-The Persons Case goes to the British Privy Council which overturns  
the decision of the Supreme Court of Canada: women are deemed to be  
"persons" and can therefore be appointed to the Senate

1931-Cairine Wilson becomes the first woman appointed to Senate of  
Canada  
1934-Women are permitted to hold elected office in New Brunswick  
1940-Women are given the vote in Quebec provincial elections  
1943-Agnes MacPhail becomes one of the first women electecd to the  
Ontario legislature  
1949-Nancy Hodges becomes the first woman Speaker in the British  
Columbia legislature, and in the Commonwealth  
1951-Charlotte Whitton of Ottawa becomes Canada's first woman mayor  
1957-Ellen Fairclough is sworn in as the first women federal Cabinet  
Minister  
1958-Margaret Meagher is appointed Ambassador to Israel and is the first  
female Canadian head of mission  
1960-Gladys Porter is the first woman elected to the Nova Scotia  
legislature  
1962-Claire Kirkland-Casgrain becomes Quebec's first MPP and Quebec's  
first woman Cabinet Minister  
1967-Brenda Robertson is the first woman elected to the New Brunswick  
legislature and their first woman Cabinet Minister  
1970-Lena Pederson becomes the first woman member of the Northwest  
Territories Council  
1972-Muriel Fergusson is appointed the first woman Speaker of the Senate  
of Canada  
1975-Rosemary Brown is the first woman in Canada to challenge the  
Leadership of major federal political party, the NDP-  
1984-by this year, only twenty-seven women sit in the 282 seat House of  
Commons-double that of 1980  
1989-Audrey McLaughlin is the first woman to become a leader of a  
national party, the NDP

still the pervading notion that pri-  
vate life and public life are not com-  
patible. This is never considered a  
problem for men, because women  
are at home to take care of the  
household. Men, however, do not  
generally consider taking on this  
role to enable the women in their  
lives to become active in politics.  
This is a problem even for students  
on campus who wish to become  
active.

A lack of financial resources: Wo-  
men make approximately 64% if  
what men make, and 60% of Can-  
ada's poor are women. Women  
who work in the home do not have  
large sources of income. Because  
society views politics as a largely  
male activity, men are more likely  
than women to get a leave of ab-  
sence from their jobs. Of course this  
is beginning to change.

Lack of support services: women  
do not have universal access to day-  
care and other support services that  
would help them ease gently into  
public life. Since many women are

single parents, with limited re-  
sources, this lack can force women  
to give up or postpone any thought  
of activism.

And finally, if we overcome all  
these barriers, we often face a lack  
of confidence in our own abilities,  
perceptions and opinions. Too of-  
ten, it is harder to get heard as a  
woman, or an assumption is auto-  
matically made that we won't un-  
derstand something. Too often also,  
we believe that we actually don't  
have something to say which is as  
profound or as interesting as the  
man sitting next to us. But probably  
every one of us has had the experi-  
ence more than once of not saying  
something because we felt uncom-  
fortable about talking, only to have  
someone else say it (and perhaps  
not as eloquently as we would  
have, if only...). As well, we've  
probably all had the experience of  
saying something, maybe some-  
thing important, but we got no re-  
sponse and yet not ten minutes  
later a man says the same thing in a

different way and suddenly every-  
body is interested in his novel idea!

This is not to say that men don't  
experience such things, of course  
they do. But women experience  
them much more often and possibly  
for different reasons than do men.  
For instance, a woman sitting on a  
largely male executive or in a largely  
male committee may be feeling  
more aware that she is a female  
while the patriarchal jargon and pro-  
cedure of Robert's Rules of Order  
fly back and forth. As women move  
into areas that have traditionally  
been male domains, areas such as  
the Students' Society Boards of Di-  
rectors, they constantly have to  
push themselves to do things that  
they may never have done before or  
even considered doing.

There will be a Bi-Election in Octo-  
ber for the University of Victoria  
Students Society. At least four posi-  
tions of Director will open. These  
are volunteer positions. If elected,  
you will be required to sit on a Board  
with nineteen other individuals, and

participate on two committees.  
These committees include every-  
thing from student issues to social  
issues to administration of the build-  
ing. It is an incredible place to gain  
confidence and skills, meet some  
wonderful people and help carry out  
campaigns.

Don't let anyone tell you you  
don't have the experience. If you  
care about issues, if you want to  
make a difference in the world, you  
are qualified. In fact you are more  
than qualified. Go see Elizabeth  
Loughran, Vice-President Aca-  
demic in SUB 135. She'll help get  
you started. And keep your eyes  
open for workshops on HOW TO  
RUN!

Sources: The Canadian Federation  
of Students *See Jane Run Cam-  
paign*; and the Canadian Advisory  
Council on the Status of Women  
background paper, *Women in Poli-  
tics: Becoming Full Partners in the  
Political Process*, November 1987.

# THE UNIVERSITY CURRICULA

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## Courses on Women 1990-91:

English 372	18th Century Women Novelists
English 385	The Bronte Sisters
English 399A	Poetry by Women
English 399B	The Otherness of Female Discourse
English 462	Feminist Literary Theory
French 488F	Women Writers
French 488G	Women in Literature in the 17th and 18th Century
History 437	Japanese Women from the 6th to the 20th Century
Paci 437)	The 11th Century Japanese Court: Women's Diaries
History 439	Contemporary European Philosophy
Paci 439)	Issues in Politics: Canadian Feminism
Philosophy 408	Issues in Politics: A comparative perspective on Women and Public Policy
PolSci 433	Sociology of Families and Households
PolSci 433	Social Movements (the Women's Movement)
	Sociology of Gender
	200A, 200B, 300A, 300B, 400A, 400B, and 490

Sociology 305  
Sociology 316  
Sociology 381  
Women's Studies

not just taking a look at women  
within this patriarchal context, but  
trying to reevaluate the context  
(itself)."

However, specialized courses on  
women are not enough, says  
Jensen. Women's issues are "still  
marginalized," and must eventually  
be integrated into all courses. This  
would mean that women's contribu-  
tions and concerns would be ad-  
dressed in all courses, rather than  
simply in a select few.

Another limitation of offering  
separate courses on women in each  
discipline is that they may "lack ei-  
ther the political agenda or the cen-  
tralized focus that Women's  
Studies provides," Devlin points  
out. In order for us to understand  
the implications of our newly dis-  
covered (or rediscovered) knowl-  
edge about women, we have to  
bring the findings of the different  
disciplines together. In a Women's  
Studies course, these issues are ex-  
amined within the context of wo-  
men's continued subordination in  
our society -- a context that is some-  
times missing in isolated courses  
on women. Ideally, a university  
would offer courses on women and  
have a Women's Studies depart-  
ment, as well as integrating wo-  
men's issues into general courses.  
Are we moving towards this kind of

future?

"Yes, but not as quickly as we  
would like," French professor Wae-  
lti-Walters says, English, French,  
and History departments have re-  
sponded much more quickly than  
others. Social Science departments  
are finally beginning to hire women  
interested in making changes. She  
adds that professors are more open  
to their students bringing women's  
issues into their courses.

Despite these advances, sexist  
language is still a problem in many  
classes. "I had a prof. last year who  
made a joke (in class) about beating  
his wife," says Jensen. Many stu-  
dents are unaware that the Senate  
does not allow this kind of language  
in class. The Senate Committee on  
teaching and learning says that an  
effective instructor "is sensitive to  
the range of attitudes and experi-  
ences possessed by students of  
both sexes, varying cultural back-  
grounds, and differing ages, and is  
therefore able to create a learning  
environment in which all students  
feel they have a place." A quality  
course uses "non-discriminatory  
language and examples." The prob-  
lem has at least been  
acknowledged.

Future changes are likely to come  
from several different directions.

Waelti-Walters says students

can have an impact by demanding  
courses on women, but warns,  
"some departments listen to their  
students and some don't." Hiring  
more women professors, who cur-  
rently only make up 16% of faculty,  
may also be a key. Says Jensen of  
subject areas like Chemistry, "just  
by having women teach you're  
going to have a different perspec-  
tive on what you're learning." Wae-  
lti-Walters is more cautious in her  
optimism. Describing the hiring of  
more women as "a start," she  
points out that many women aca-  
demics have had to identify with  
male values to be successful in their  
disciplines.

In the end, it may boil down to  
money and power. Support from  
the upper administration is crucial,  
Waelti-Walters says. If women's is-  
sues are going to be perceived as  
every bit as exciting and worthy of  
attention as men's issues, the presi-  
dent and deans must give them that  
legitimacy.

We can only hope that the new  
President, Dr. Strong, is making  
these positive changes a part of his  
mandate.

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# MYTHS About SEXUAL ASSAULT

by Marne Jensen

Sexual Assault is one of the most misunderstood crimes in Canada. Despite efforts to define sexual assault as a violent crime involving power and domination, rape myths emphasising the sexual nature of the crime persist. These commonly held misconceptions do not represent the true nature of the crime.

**"It could never happen to me."**

This is the most appealing myth, but one out of every four women in Canada will be sexually assaulted at some point in their lives; one out of seventeen will be sexually assaulted involving forced intercourse. All women are potential victims, regardless of age, class, ethnicity or physical appearance. In Canada, reports of sexual assault, involving forced sexual intercourse include women of all ages, from a four month old infant to a 92 year old woman. However, women between the age of 14 and 22 are the most vulnerable to sexual assault. While men are also potential victims, a 1981 Canadian study concluded, that 90 per cent of sexual assault victims were female and that their assailants were male.

**"Rapists are sex-craved perverts,"**  
OR  
**"But he's so popular, it can't be true."**

In reality, there is nothing exceptional about the male offender: they represent all class, ethnic, occupational and educational backgrounds. Almost half of all offenders, who force their victims to have sexual intercourse, are married or living common-law at the time of the assault and are considered responsible members of the community. In most instances, the victim will know her assailant. There is nothing about the assailant to distinguish him from Joe Average. The offender is Joe Average.

**"What did she expect, being out so late at night?"**

Women are constantly warned to avoid walking alone at night and to be wary of strangers. However, 49 per cent of all sexual assaults occur in broad daylight, women are assaulted by someone they know 67 per cent of the time and 75 per cent of all sexual assaults occur at home or in a vehicle. These statistics suggest that better advice might be: never go home and never talk to anyone you know.



**"She got him all excited and led him on. What was he supposed to do?"**

This myth reveals our society's tendency to hold the victim responsible for sexual assault. She shouldn't have dressed that way/ been so drunk/taken a ride/ led him on. Rationalisations like these may be used by men to justify their actions, or they may be used by women to distinguish themselves from the victim to avoid feeling helpless and vulnerable. By believing the victim did something to provoke the assault, one can believe that sexual assault can be avoided by not dressing that way/ drinking too much/ accepting a ride/leading him on.

Also this myth suggests that women do not have the right to limit sexual activity and that to agree to any sexual contact is to agree to sexual intercourse. The implication that a man is incapable of controlling himself once aroused is an insult to all men.

**"Women often cry rape to get revenge or because they feel guilty about having sex."**

This statement implies that tough sexual assault laws are required to protect men from false sexual assault charges. However, in reality, sexual assault is the most under-reported crime: only one in ten sexual assaults are reported to the authorities.

**"Women secretly fantasize about being raped."**

A survey of college-aged men revealed that 51 per cent said they might rape a woman if they knew they wouldn't be caught and punished. The men also indicated that they thought the woman would enjoy it. While some women may fantasize about "submitting" to a "powerful" or "forceful" man, sexual assault is a violent crime of power and domination committed to humiliate and degrade the victim. Once one understands what sexual assault is, one knows that no woman wants to be sexually assaulted.

Sexual assault remains a confusing issue in a society where media images depict force as sexy; women are stereotyped as passive, dependant and nurturing; men are stereotyped as aggressive, dominant and forceful; and the balance of power between men and women remains unequal.



by Marne Jensen

The first laws against sexual assault were designed to protect male property: wives and daughters. A man convicted of sexual assault was usually required to financially compensate the woman's owner (eg. father or husband). A father would receive money to compensate for the reduced price on the marriage market for damaged goods; a husband would receive money for the violation of his right to exclusive sexual access to his wife. Although sexual assault laws have evolved over the centuries, the idea of women as property persists. Today, virgin daughters and chaste wives are still more likely to successfully charge their assailants

**DONT ACCEPT RIDES FROM  
STRANGE MEN AND  
REMEMBER ALL MEN ARE  
STRANGE AS HELL**

with sexual assault. In most states south of the border, a wife cannot charge her husband with rape and some states have extended this immunity to common-law partners.

In January 1983 the old laws of rape, attempted rape and indecent assault were replaced by a three tiered sexual assault law. The definition of rape as requiring penetration was replaced by measuring the level of violence used in the attack, appropriately shifting the emphasis from sex to violence. Also, the changes included a de-genderizing of the charges, revoked a husband's immunity from the law, and removed the necessity of corroboration and recent complaint. Another important change is that it is now very difficult for the defence to bring up the complainant's sexual history.

The three levels of sexual assault are defined by the amount of violence used in the attack:  
Level One-- simple sexual assault--includes any unwanted sexual activity (eg. kissing, touching, intercourse) with no sign of physical injury or abuse. Maximum sentence: ten years imprisonment.  
Level Two--sexual assault with a weapon, threats to a third party or causing bodily harm--includes the use of a weapon or threats to use a weapon, threats to a third party (eg. a child or friend) and causes bodily harm. If there is more than one assailant present at the time of the assault, the second person constitutes use of a weapon. Maximum sentence: fourteen years imprisonment.  
Level Three--aggravated sexual assault--includes the wounding, maiming, disfiguring or endangering the life of a person during a sexual assault. Maximum sentence: life imprisonment.

Although the new law reflects a vast improvement over the old rape law, laws are only as good as the people who interpret them. The maximum sentences for sexual assault implies that society defines it as a serious crime, but in reality, convicted offenders are sentenced to jail terms comparable to those

# SEXUAL ASSAULT AND THE LAW

given for theft or burglary. In 1988, a judge sentenced an offender to a 90 day jail term to be served on weekends because there was "no evidence of lasting emotional or psychological harm to the victim." This judge clearly failed to recognize the trauma associated with sexual assault.

Numerous studies reveal that the majority of sexual assaults occur in the home and between persons who know each other. Thus, it is disturbing to note that prior knowledge of the offender negatively affects a complainant. In 1985, a judge handed down a lenient sentence of 90 days to be served intermittently with two years probation to an offender who tied up his victim and had forced sexual intercourse with her. His reasoning: "the accused had had a sexual relation-

ada's first case of sexual assault by a spouse, the offender pleaded guilty and received a one year prison term with one year probation. The judge reasoned: "I am of the view, and I believe it is common ground, that the degree of trauma associated with a sexual assault is affected by the relationship, if any, between the parties. And I think it cannot be said that the trauma suffered by the victim is as great where there has been a past history of lawful sexual relations with the accused as it would if she were attacked by a stranger." This statement ignores the trauma associated with the breach of trust inherent in the sexual assault of a spouse. Also, the sentencing of husbands does not seem to reflect the level of violence involved in the attack. An illustrative example appeared in the Winnipeg Free Press, September 8, 1983: the husband "pursued and caught her and began punching her in the face. He threw her to the ground and began choking her...then dragged his wife along the ground a short distance, pulled her pants to her knees and had intercourse with her against her will...Medical evidence presented at the trial noted [she] . . . required eight stitches to close cuts to her nose and mouth." The man was convicted and sentenced to six months imprisonment with one year probation. One must wonder what effect societal beliefs about women's masochistic tendencies and wifely "duty" have on judges.

Although the new sexual assault legislation constitutes positive change, the people in positions that interpret the law are far from being "new and improved." Attitudes that do not perceive sexual assault as traumatic to all women regardless of their relationship with their assailant are not surprising in a society where men are still able to "own" women either symbolically or temporarily through the purchase of pornography or prostitution. The new sexual assault legislation is hardly effective in the context of unchanged societal beliefs and attitudes.

**WOMEN  
AGAINST  
RAPE**



**NO MORE SHIT!**



# ABORTION LAW CAN STILL BE DEFEATED

by Pam Frache and Michelle Robidoux

When Romanian dictator Nicolae Ceaucescu was overthrown last December, the world got a first-hand look at the reality of women being denied the right to choose abortion. For many years, abortion had been completely illegal in Romania, and the penalties enforced were extremely harsh.

In the weeks that followed the revolution, stories of orphanages filled with malnourished, neglected children of all ages were carried in the Western press. Romanian women described life under conditions of constant surveillance by Ceaucescu's "gynecological police." It was revealed that thousands of women had died from botched abortions—an estimated 1800 in Bucharest alone in 1989.

On June 11th, that reality came crashing home when Yvonne Jurewicz, a twenty year-old student in Toronto, dies from a self-induced abortion performed with a coat-hanger. This young woman's death stood in grim contrast to justice minister, Kim Campbell's assertion that the accessibility of abortion in Canada would not be in danger by the passing of Bill C-43, a law which will make abortion a criminal act.

For over two years Canada has been without an abortion law. For over two years the Tory government has put forward the argument that a law was needed to balance the rights of a woman and the rights of a fetus. In fact, what the federal government attempted to do was paint a picture of two "extremist" groups — pro-choice and anti-choice — battling it out in front of abortion clinics. The introduction of Bill C-43 was packaged as a moral "compromise" to an issue over which their "morality" has no relevance.

This Tory fantasy is a long way from the real issues surrounding abortion. According to the most recent polls, 62 per cent of Canadians are opposed to abortion being re-criminalized. Those who would deny women the right to abortion, even in cases of rape or incest, are a tiny minority of Canadian society.

More importantly, there can be no "compromise" when women's lives are at stake. Whether or not abortion is legal, women will always seek to control their reproduction.



Where laws banning abortion exist, women facing an unplanned or unwanted pregnancy break those laws by resorting to backstreet abortions or by risking their lives attempting to terminate their pregnancies themselves. United Nations statistics show that over 200,000 women die each year from the complications resulting from illegal abortions.

No matter what assurances Kim Campbell may provide, the truth is that from the moment the Bill was passed by the House of Commons, access to abortion was restricted across the country. Doctors in Calgary's Foothills Hospital, Winnipeg Health Sciences Centre, and Halifax's Victoria General Hospital warned that they would be forced

to stop providing abortion services because of the threat of third party litigation posed by the new law. The Canadian Medical Association opposed the law for leaving doctors open to harassment. Individual doctors in smaller communities reported an increase in picketing of their homes and offices by anti-choice groups.

The combined effect of these statements in the press gave the impression that the Law was now in effect even though it has not yet been passed by the Senate or proclaimed. These pronouncements by the medical profession led to panic among women — especially younger women — and birth control centres, health clinics, and abortion clinics began receiving dozens of calls from women asking whether they could still obtain abortions. There were only a few doctors in Quebec's community health clinics who said that they would defy the law.

There is a direct correlation between Yvonne Jurewicz's death and Bill C-43. Since 1974, there have been no recorded deaths from self-induced abortions in Canada. One week after the Bill passed third reading, a sixteen year-old woman from Waterloo was hospitalized after a backstreet abortion. A week later, Yvonne was dead.

**Abortion laws kill women.** But these laws don't affect all women equally. This crisis in access that the potential law has already created will not prevent women who have the means from flying to the United

States or approaching a specialist and obtaining the service. Wealthy women have always been able to get around those restrictions that have forced poor women to go to backstreet butchers. This is why Tory women, like Barbara MacDougall and Kim Campbell, can call themselves prochoice yet vote for Bill C-43.



**The Law can be defeated.** Kim Campbell may still have to eat her words. Three days after Yvonne's death, during a conference of provincial justice ministers, Campbell said that even if the Senate approved the Bill now, she would not have it proclaimed until she was certain that Canadian doctors would not be threatened by the new legislation. In the meantime Senate

hearing may take place across the country, which would provide a focus for mobilization against the Bill. Senators themselves have no plans to push the Bill through, a number of them having stated that they will stall it up as long as they can.

Senators are certainly useless targets for lobbying efforts, but the process of hearings means that a Senate vote will be delayed. There is still time to kill the Bill.

To this end, the Canadian Abortion Rights Action League (CARAL) along with the ProChoice Action Network, are planning a National Day of Action for October 13th.

Last year on October 14th, 20,000 people rallied across the country and said NO NEW LAW. The Tory government did not listen. The theme for this year's action is **MARCHING FOR WOMEN'S LIVES**. There are already events planned for Victoria, Vancouver, Calgary, Saskatoon, Winnipeg, Ottawa, Toronto, Montreal, and Halifax. Many other communities are expected to join in the protest.

This anti-woman law passed third reading in the House by nine votes. The Commons will have a hard time trying to portray the Bill as widely endorsed legislation.

The lesson from this vote is, in the words of Yogi Berra, "It ain't over 'til it's over." If there is one slim chance to push this Bill over the edge, every one of us has a responsibility to make sure that chance is seized. One woman's death is too many.

## The Feminization of Poverty

by Kathryn Fairfield

Despite the improvements in legislation and social programs that were made during the last decade, women continue to face an excessively high risk of being poor, the National Council of Welfare said in a report made on August 13, 1990.

**Women and Poverty Revisited** is an update of the Council's 1979 work **Women and Poverty**. It shows that women are still extremely vulnerable to poverty for reasons almost totally beyond their control. The main causes are child care responsibilities, labour market inequalities, marriage breakdown and widowhood.

"Obviously, the conventional optimistic view that the financial problems of women will disappear as more of them get paid jobs contains serious flaws," the report says. "The reality is that as women increase their work outside the home to improve their position relative to men, even stronger forces are at work to counter their gains."

The report includes a detailed analysis of the low income statistics for 1987 for women living in different types of households. Marriage offers the best protection against poverty, but this protection all too often disappears when a relationship breaks down or the husband dies.

"The figures speak for themselves. Only a third of married women under age 65 are employed year round in full-time jobs. Of the women who marry, only one in six is married for life. The others either separate or divorce or become widowed."

Single-parent mothers are espe-

cially prone to poverty. In 1987, 57 percent of all single-parent mothers and their children were poor. Their average family income was a mere \$10,400, or 61 percent of the poverty line."

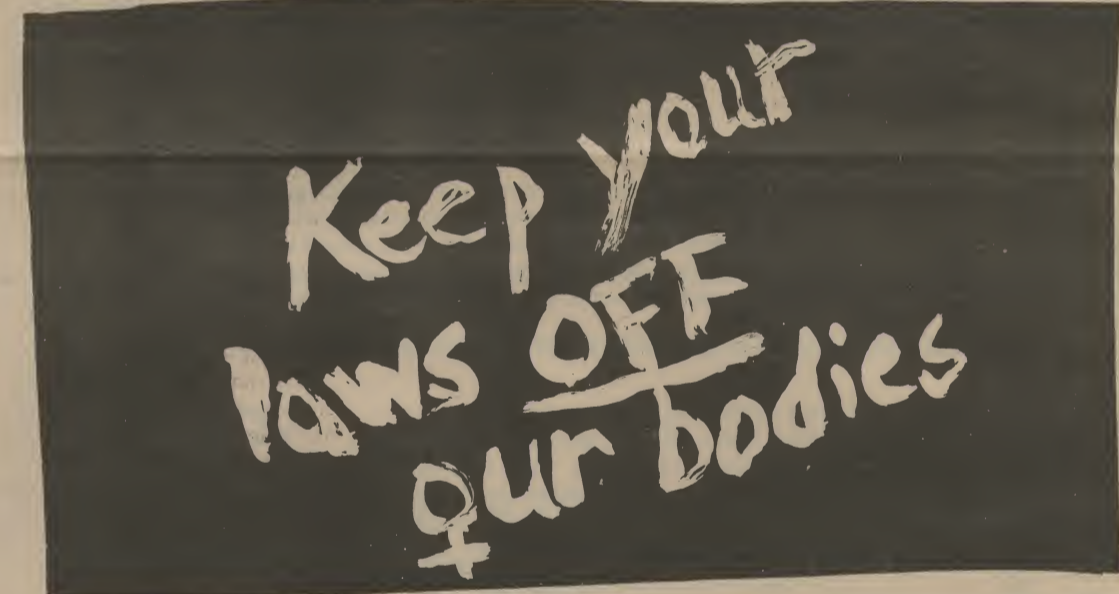
"When we calculated the total poverty gap — the total dollar difference between the poverty line and the incomes of all poor Canadians — we discovered that female single-parents with children under 18 bore a full 17 percent of this poverty burden, even though they made up only three percent of all households."

The report also discusses the problems of women living outside families — unattached young people and widows, for example — and the "doubly disadvantaged" — aboriginal women, disabled women, and women who are immigrants or members of visible minorities.

The 35 recommendations in the report would go a long way to making women more financially secure. Many of the proposals are aimed at breaking the link between motherhood and poverty.

"The fact that fathers are much less vulnerable to poverty demonstrates that things could be different. If mothers were provided with adequate support from society, including affordable child care and longer maternity leaves, equal access to well-paying jobs and fairer support payments, and if we had better income security programs for parents and older people, then women would not have to choose between personal financial security and motherhood."

The 153 page report is available through the Women's Centre for those interested.



Royal Commission on  
New Reproductive Technologies

Commission royale sur les  
nouvelles techniques de reproduction

The Royal Commission on New Reproductive Technologies announced in May details of an extensive public consultations program, including wide-ranging forums, a toll-free information line, and cross-country public hearings which commence in September, 1990.

"The issues surrounding the new reproductive technologies could ultimately affect all of us," said Dr. Patricia Baird, Commission Chairperson. "The Commission has launched the public consultations program to encourage people from all walks of life to become involved in discussing these issues." Dr. Baird noted that the Commission provides the first public opportunity for Canadians to discuss the issues surrounding new reproductive technologies from a broad, social and family perspective.

"The effects and implications of new reproductive technologies are extremely broad and complex, affecting various aspects of women's reproductive health, as well as raising important ethical and legal issues," stressed Dr. Baird. "We hope that everyone in Canada, representing the full range of experiences and views on these challenging issues, will take the important opportunity represented by our Commission to come forward and help influence the direction of public policy in this area."

New Reproductive Technologies were originally considered as medical and scientific techniques designed to assist infertile individuals who have been unable to conceive. In recent years, however, the technologies and procedures have expanded considerably.

This expansion is reflected in the Commission's mandate which directs it to examine areas such as reversals of sterilization procedures, artificial inseminations, *in vitro* fertilization, embryo transfer, surrogate childbearing, prenatal screening and diagnostic techniques, genetic manipulation and therapeutic interventions to correct genetic anomalies, sex selection techniques, embryo experimentation and fetal tissue transplants.

The Commission will be in Victoria on November 29th. For those persons wishing to relate a personal experience relevant to the Commission's mandate, in a more private or informal setting, individual sessions can be arranged. Written or recorded submissions will be accepted until December 31st, 1990. More information is available at the Women's Centre (SUB 106). Or you can call (613) 954-2322. An information kit, including background information on the Commission, its mandate, biographies of Commissioners, a hearings schedule, and **A Guide To Public Participation In The Work of The Royal Commission on New Reproductive Technologies**, may be obtained by calling the toll-free information line at 1-800-668-7060.

# HORRORSCOPES

patriarchal signs for a patriarchal planet

by Emmeline Archer

## VIRGO:

Those screaming Virgos, we like to say in the astrology biz. This month like most others you will be quietly screaming your virgo-nity. You people are naive, but this month it may serve you well; your protective blinders and trust in humanity may allow you a few more days of not know-ing. Still desperately clinging to utopian ideals, you are a child of the universe. You are not, however, responsible for all of its ills. On the bright side, Virgos, there is a measure of financial success coming your way, maybe even a wingfall. Happy flippin Birthday!



## LIBRA

Oh, yes my well balanced darlings, you think you've got it all figured out, but I am here to tell you that your karma is way out of wack. Librans need to guard themselves against experiences that may induce unnecessary amounts of cynicism. It is far too early in life for war wounds. Plant your own garden and tend it carefully.

## SCORPIO

How lucky to have a birthday right in the doldrums of winter. Your stubbornness and tenacity will serve you well during the upcomin year, in terms of GPA and self-satisfaction. But you've more likely already got plenty in those departments. Tread carefully within your interpersonal realm, make new friends and broaden your horizons. Learning to empathise would be your greatest accomplishment.



## SAGITTARIUS

Resolution of old conflicts, with yourself and others, will set you on the path to enlightenment. Do what you need to do and not for anyone else. Your zany nature is great at a party but it can't hold up the planet. Get down to earth and revel in its wonder.

## CAPRICORN

As usual, you are probably annoying everyone with your efficient abrasiveness/abbrasive efficiency. Relax, I mean it, really relax. When is the last time you experienced joy? Quit running from and to and enjoy what you have. That's all there is.



## AQUARIUS

It's past dawn, kiddies, and all this loving everything business is great in theory, but you people need to start thinking about yourselves. Your car is going to break down, your roof fall in but there are still roses in the garden. You have lovely ideals, but sometimes you have to confront the here and now. This is the time to start on the path of self-actualization.



## PISCES

You are finally coming to the place where you're starting to understand your own needs and to act on them. Like everyone, though, you are a creature who takes two steps forward and one step back. Tread carefully and understand your motivations; your subconscious drives are in full swing. Your brain is sending you messages loud and clear; don't ignore them and whatever you do, get them right.



## ARIES

This is a time of major change for you and nothing is going the way you expected. After this you will experience discomfort and feel life is a just a dull routine. Unusual for you, but it may be a long, dry winter. Spring will find you singing from mountain tops, though. Be careful what you wish for . . .

## TAURUS

Taurus, Taurus, Taurus. Your tortured soul is tired and you need to release it from its drudgery. When is the last time you went through a day without an emotional swing? Letting people closer to you, instead of doing all the work yourself would be a great weight off your shoulders. Old dogs and children need your attention -- and you need theirs.



## GEMINI

Big changes for you too, but they have been a long time in coming and you've been planning well. Separation anxiety looks like the worst and knowledge of your ability to make good choices -- and act on them -- rounds out the top end. Wouldn't it be nice if everyone would just stop worrying about you? The thing is, you wouldn't be half as happy right now if they didn't. Ain't life grand? Beware your evil twin.



## CANCER

I feel like I have to caution you that all is not as it appears. You probably aren't due to see any silver linings for quite a while. If things feel bad it's probably because they are and you have some unpleasant decisions to make. There is value in a long, hard search. There really really is more to life than champagne, nice cars, and your hair.



## LEO

You, on the other hand, could probably use a mad dash away from self-indulgence. If the truth were told, you're tired of that game and so is everyone else. One of your best qualities is the care you take with yourself; it is admirable but taken too far it can alienate those around you. I'm afraid that's where you're at my dear. Maybe someone else would like to indulge you...if you'd give them a chance.



## A ROOM OF OUR OWN

By The Collective

In 1980, the Women's Action Group, a club of the University of Victoria Students' Society, began lobbying the Students' Society Board of Directors for a room in the Student Union Building. A Women's Centre Advisory Committee was set up and it proposed that a Women's Centre be established to act as a drop-in centre, referral service, and library. Its mandate was to promote women's equality at all levels of campus life while informing the student body on issues affecting women. On February 22, 1981, the Board of Directors approved the Women's Centre proposal and since then, many women have donated their time to fulfilling the Women's Centre mandate.

The Women's Centre works on a volunteer, collective basis, although several paid staff positions are available through the University's Work Study program. The Centre is run by a Collective of women and members are encouraged to work within their own areas of interest and give input on such areas as health, social services, economic equality, international women, post secondary education, and the practice of feminist theory. We constantly expand our focus to incorporate new members' concerns and ideas.

Many of the activities and services that the Women's Centre organizes, provide opportunities for women to exchange ideas, concerns, and information. As well, the Women's Centre provides the chance to meet other women from a variety of backgrounds.

The Women's Centre has its own library and resource centre that is open to all students. The Centre's library includes books, periodicals, and pamphlets on issues that affect women. Library hours will be posted on the Women's Centre door (SUB 106) in early September.

The Women's Centre can give you information on community and social services available in Greater Victoria. The Centre also offers a supportive atmosphere and place

where women can stop and catch their breath. Women are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the Centre and attend Women's Centre meetings to make full use of our resources.

We lobby a variety of groups starting on the campus with the Students' Society and the University administration, and, moving upward, to our provincial and federal governments. Our issues are varied and can include pay equity, health, safety, education, daycare, and more.

We are affiliated with a number of provincial and national groups and receive a variety of publications from them. These groups include the Canadian Federation of Students Women's Caucus (CFS), Canadian Abortion Rights Action League (CARAL), the Victoria Status of Women Action Group (SWAG), and the National Action Committee on the Status of Women (NAC), among others. As well, we offer political skills workshops, and strongly encourage women to participate in campus political life. A workshop will be offered to aid women in running for the Students' Society Board of Directors in the October Bi-election.

It's not all work, though. The Women's Centre organizes a multitude of social events, including speakers, musical events, coffee houses, pot-lucks, and the event of the year, the International Women's Day week of celebration. This year is a special year for the Women's Centre as it is our Ten Year Anniversary. Watch for a festive week of events in February.

The Emily is produced by the Women's Centre and is always looking for women to write, draw, and take photographs. The Emily is Canada's oldest student feminist newspaper and is registered in the National Archives of Canada. Join us and become a part of Canada's history.

The Women's Centre Collective is a student women's group working for students in order to promote equality at all levels of the University. Meeting times will be posted on the Women's Centre door. Come out and join the feminist movement.



# POWERPOWERPOWER

by Cathy Richardson

*The Women's Spirituality Movement is faced with a paradox: how to control the morality of men who can only be controlled by fear, while maintaining that rule by fear is evil.*

Barbara Walker  
The Crone

One need only look to the Saudi/Iraqi border for proof that rule by fear is evil — evil being that which destructively acts contrary to the forces of life. It seems that the dominant fears in the malestream world are economic as well as psychological. Thus the "power-over" model rules and dominates the nature of human interaction. Although women and children are the most common victims of the "power-over" power trip, all creatures and Mother Earth are affected in devastating ways.



Fear and power are intimately linked in patriarchal society. Fear of losing power is an integral dynamic of interaction — at all levels. Aggression, justified as a protective or pre-emptive measure, becomes

normalized human behavior. Feminine, or alternative (if you prefer) concepts of power encourage radically different responses in human behavior. Models such as "power-to", power-sharing, or mutual empowerment do not necessitate or perpetuate hierarchical relationships. "Power-sharing" is not threatened by fear. Empowerment is not a limited resource for which people compete. Fear then becomes a healthy, intuitive, unthreatening human response. By altering our personal concepts of power, we eliminate the need to call in the troops, so to speak.

In Canada we have seen the fear/power syndrome used against women in the ugliest of ways. In December 1989 Marc Lepine translated his fear of power loss into a misogynist womanslaughter, declaring "I only want the feminists". The media, the voice of the nation's collective ethos and psyche, identified Lepine's motivation as "insanity". He had no psychological record and was not known to be aggressive towards women. His actions seem clearly motivated by fear and hatred of women. One wonders if the media is, albeit unconsciously, protecting us from an ugly fact that we, as a society, are not ready to face. Though Lepine was likely severely mentally disturbed, he had apparently given a lot of thought to the changing nature of power between men and women. His actions were probably due to an distorted psychotic interpretation of the threat he felt by perceived power-loss. He was not a man of his time.

Marc Lepine may have functioned normally in the society of the 1950s — when gender roles were solidly intact, and it was clear who had power over whom. Now that gender-balancing is initiating change in many areas, life on the whole seems more unpredictable.



Success requires tolerance, adaptability and understanding of needs (ours and those of others). If the needs of women were legitimized and supported in our society, resources for damage control (how to deal with change? where do I fit in?), and public education would become available. As it is, women are still dealing with issues of safety, affordable housing, and childcare.

Here at the University of Victoria, a fence in front of the new engineering building displayed the following graffiti:

**STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN NOW!**

Later, the words AGAINST WOMEN were effaced (by a graffiti artist who was also in favour of increased tuition — same paint job). All the graffiti slogans revealed the presence of the fear/power syndrome at work in people's lives. Firstly a woman fearing for her safety, and secondly someone fearing for everyone's safety. To the 'humanitarians' one must ask the question "Who has the most to fear?" For whatever reason, once again we do not face the real issue — WOMEN (and children) ARE THE MOST COMMON VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE. It is the powerless in the patriarchal "power-over" system who are the main victims. Identifying this does not mean one approves of violence towards men. There have always been violent clashes between those who possess power vying for more of it. If we are going to evolve to a better, safer place our society must examine the faces of power and violence. We must determine who holds the power over whom? and who are the victims of violence? When we face the facts and develop an understanding and analysis we will then see the need for justice. This process is called empowerment!

## TWENTY YEARS LATER

by Kathryn Fairfield

"Feminism is dead. It was useful once but women don't need it any more." On the other hand, we know that women still make 64 cents to every man's dollar and universally accesible daycare is still no more than a single parent's dream. Twenty years after the Royal Commission's Report on the Status of Women (1970), the issue of women's social, economic, and political equality is still a major focus of debate and discussion in Canada.

On the weekend of Friday Sept. 28th and Saturday, September 29, the University of Victoria is hosting their contribution to the dialogue with a Conference entitled **WOMEN'S LIVES: VISIONS, REALITIES and STRATEGIES**. On the agenda will be presentations and discussions aimed at reviewing women's progress, identifying the barriers to our full participation in Canadian society, discussing the agenda for the next two decades and developing realistic strategies for the future.

Keynote speaker, the Honourable Monique Begin, P.C., begins the conference with a review of the

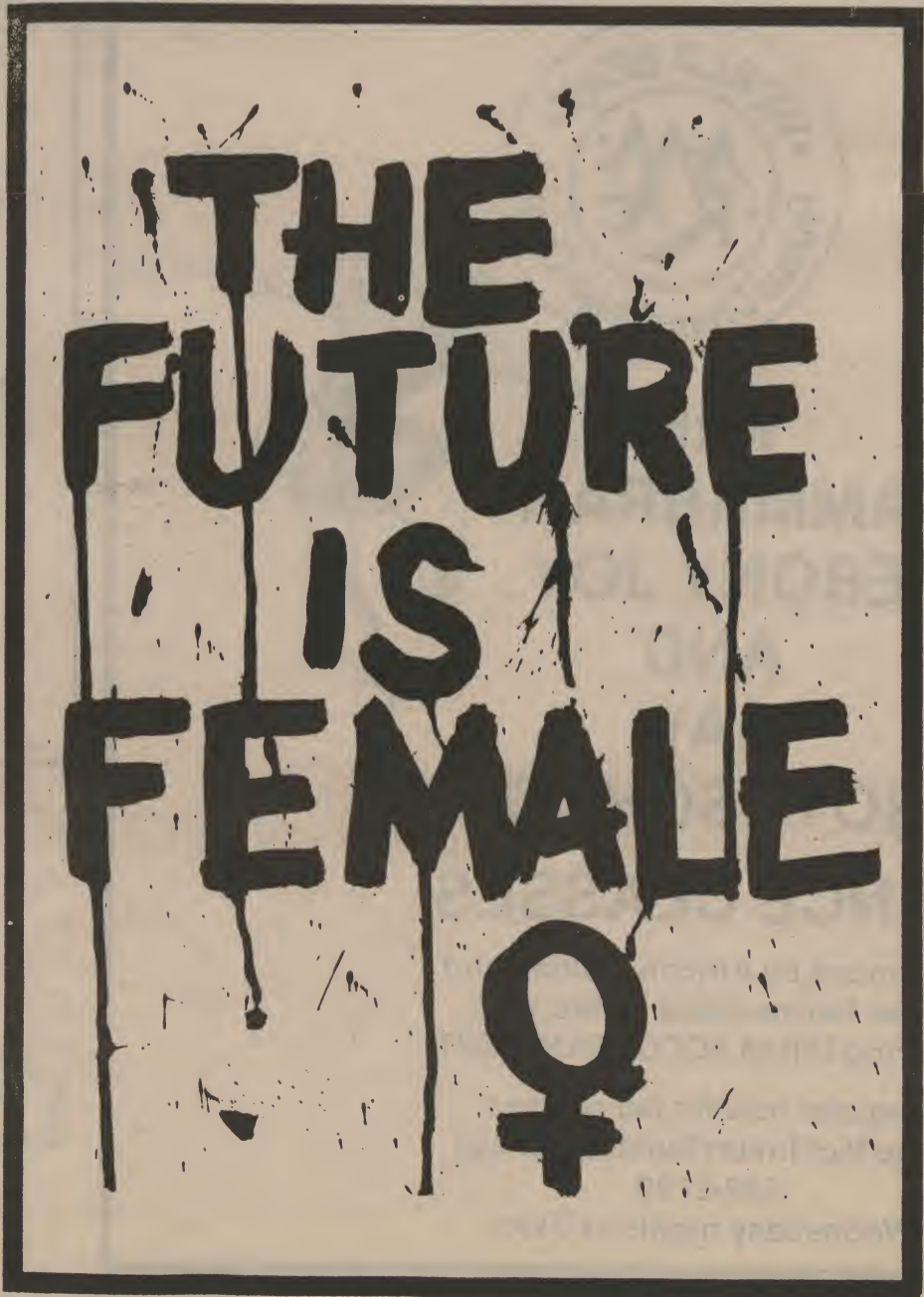
Women's Movement to date in her presentation **Taking Stock, Looking Ahead: A Retrospective, 1970 - 1990**, followed by **Provincial Perspectives** with the Honourable Carol Gran, Minister Responsible for Women's Programs and Darlene Marzari, MLA, NDP Critic, Status of Women. A General Discussion and Reception will end the evening.

Glenda Simms, President, Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women, is Saturday's keynote speaker, presenting her talk, **A Vision for the Future** at Saturday's 8:45 Am Plenary Session

This theme is carried through in the mornings presentations and group discussions followed in the afternoon with Panel Presentations based on **Strategies for Change**.

For those with energy still to burn, they will get a chance to kick up their heels and socialize at a reception, dinner and dance hosted by SWAG. Those who want to attend are encouraged to reserve early.

Child care services are available at a nominal cost. The Conference fee is \$35 with a few fee waivers available. For more information call 721-8481.



# PANIC-STRICKEN

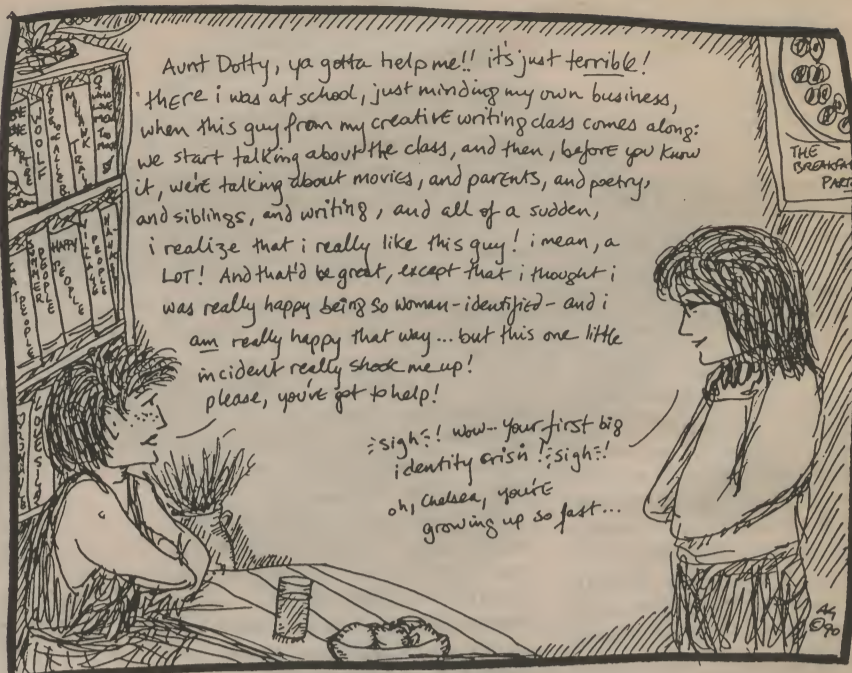
portrait of panic



and on the local scene: this afternoon, the male owner of a garden-supply store became involved in a dispute with a female employee. After denying the worker's accusation of sexual harassment, the man began to throw potted plants at her. Witnesses say that they were small plants, but the man still faces charges of violets against women...

a mauve-ing story...

portrait of panic



Aunt Dotty, ya gotta help me!! it's just terrible! There i was at school, just minding my own business, when this guy from my creative writing class comes along: we start talking about the class, and then, before you know it, we're talking about movies, and parents, and poetry, and siblings, and writing, and all of a sudden, i realize that i really like this guy! i mean, a LOT! And that'd be great, except that i thought i was really happy being so woman-identified - and i am really happy that way... but this one little incident really shook me up! please, you've got to help!

sigh!! wow... your first big identity crisis! sigh!! oh, Chelsea, you're growing up so fast...

no straight answers...

Portrait of Panic



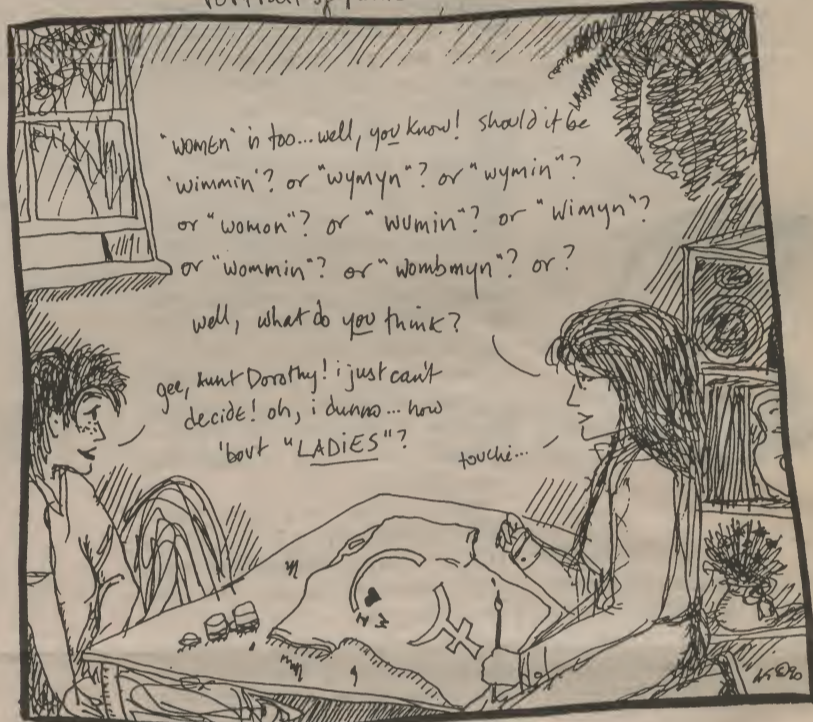
So then i saw this guy, and he was absolutely incredible - looking... he had the most amazing curly golden hair, and the most gorgeous blue eyes - suddenly, i saw the error of my ways!

You don't mean...! don't tell me you realized that you like men better than women?!

no, i realized that i really do like blondes better than brunettes!

Dorothy's in-hair-out desires...

Portrait of panic



"women" is too... well, you know! should it be 'wimmin'? or 'wymyn'? or 'wymyn'? or 'womon'? or 'wumin'? or 'Wimyn'? or 'wommin'? or 'wombmyn'? or?

well, what do you think?

gee, Aunt Dorothy! i just can't decide! oh, i dunno... how 'bout "LADIES"?

touché...

spell-craft.



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EBONY JOY  
AND  
RAY  
ROTHSCHILD**



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## Women's Centre T-Shirts

will be on sale during Club's Days

September 17th and 18th.

Watch for Them!

